WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A ceramic capacitor comprising a ceramic dielectric body and at least two spaced-apart electrodes in contact with said body wherein at least 80 weight percent of said body consists of alumina, said body further comprising at least 0.5 $BaTiO_3$ w/w%, at least 0.5 w/w% MgO, < 0.05 w/w% SiO_2, at least 4.5 w/w% ZrO_2 and at least 0.07 w/w% HfO_2.

2. A capacitor according to claim 1 comprising between 0.5 and 15 w/w% $BaTiO_3$.

3. A ceramic capacitor according to claim 1 wherein said ceramic dielectric body comprises between about 80-92 w/w% Al_2O_3, about 0.5 and 15 w/w% $BaTiO_3$, about 0.5-1.0 w/w% MgO, about < 0.05-1.0 w/w% SiO_2, about 4.5-7.5 w/w% ZrO_2 and about 0.07-0.13 w/w% HfO_2 and wherein the sum of the components does not exceed 100%.

4. A ceramic capacitor according to claim 1 wherein said ceramic dielectric body comprises up to 15 w/w% $BaTiO_3$, up to 1.0 w/w% MgO, up to 92 w/w% Al_2O_3, up to 1 w/w% SiO_2, up to 7.5 w/w% ZrO_2 and up to 0.125 w/w% HfO_2.

5. A ceramic capacitor according to claim 1 wherein said ceramic dielectric body comprises about 90.5 w/w% Al_2O_3, 2.5 w/w% $BaTiO_3$, < 0.05 w/w% SiO_2, 6 w/w% ZrO_2 , 0.6 w/w% MgO and 0.1 w/w% HfO_2.

6. A ceramic capacitor according to claim 1 wherein said ceramic dielectric body comprises about 87 w/w% Al_2O_3, 6 w/w% $BaTiO_3$ < 0.05 w/w% SiO_2, 6 w/w% ZrO_2 , 0.6 w/w% MgO and 0.1 w/w% HfO_2.

7. A ceramic capacitor according to claim 1 wherein said ceramic dielectric body has a dielectric constant of at least 23.